













# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, NOV. 9, 1857.

## The Bubble Burst. Who will Blow Another?

Land speculation has received a check—western lands are a drug in the market. Speculation has been stimulated and done to death. Ruin has overtaken hundreds of "operators," and financial suffering has overspread the land, and for this the land mania is measurably to blame. Grants of wild lands will no longer build railroads, if in truth they ever did so. Congress will be free from the importunities of land-beggars. "The proceeds of the Public Lands" will be small enough in all conscience—the lands themselves will not for some years pay for their management and sale.

We do not say that the sole cause of the financial difficulties of the year 1857 is to be found in Western Land speculation, but no one denies that these speculations have an important part in bringing about these difficulties. Few can doubt that Eastern Funds were carried West for speculative purposes, and returned again only for redemption. Few can doubt that the new railroads built upon the grants of public lands were used as speculative engines to assist in the land schemes of interested parties, or suppose for a moment that such roads were really the profitable affairs to the stockholders that these parties represented them to be, for if they had been, such roads would not now be in the suspended and embarrassed position which they are known to occupy.

We know that the tendency to expansion, adventure, speculation, over-trading, over-crediting, is inevitable in a new country, inhabited by an active, energetic, progressive people, and it is folly to charge all of this tendency upon any particular institution or agency, as Banks, Railroads, or anything of the kind. The tendency exists by and has its origin in the nature of things and of people, and if men and women could not over-expand their business, their expenses and their skirts through the agency of banks and hoops, we presume they would find some other way, as is instanced in the case of an English Peer whose wife had got him to promise that he would forsake all sorts of games of chance, enumerating all the known ways of gambling.—In a day or two after she found him and one of his companions busily engaged in the investigation of a hay stack. She was somewhat surprised at his newly awakened interest in agricultural productions, until she found that the gentlemen were pulling stalks of the dried grass and betting large sums upon the longest.

But the very fact that this tendency to undue action already exists, is the strongest argument against any policy calculated unduly to stimulate and excite that, which, even without such stimulation and excitement, is too apt to run into excess. That bank expansions have this tendency, there can be no doubt. That great facilities for land trading have the same effect is equally certain and unquestionable, for the experience of the last few years shows it. These things do not create the spirit of recklessness complained of, but they stimulate and develop into undue proportions.

Suppose, then, that to existing causes and stimulants to speculative action, another and a powerful one had been added. Suppose that the public land had been distributed, according to the plan proposed in "Bennett's bill," as it is called, or according to any other of the plans brought forward, and the interests and energies of thirty-one State governments, thus become western land-owners, had been brought into the field to swell the tide—to push forward the movement, who can tell what the result? Suppose the distribution scheme had been carried through, and had become a law, and to go no further, suppose North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina had thus become proprietors of certain millions of western lands, and the employers of agencies, runners, and all singular, the machinery to push these lands into market, with their schemes, circulars and advertisements around, to draw off population, labor and capital from their own vitals of these western possessions, and then suppose this rule throughout the land, what State, what community, yea, what individual would have escaped the mania, or have failed to suffer by the crash? The effects of this reckless land movement have been bad enough as things stand. What might they not have been, and what might they not be again, if such wild schemes as the distributionists contend for could only be carried into effect?

Times like these afford practical tests to be applied to such ad captivum measures, and the appeals made in their behalf—they enable us to measure the judgments, the acumen and the motives of their advocates.

## Charleston Municipal Election.

Mr. Macbeth was, last week elected Mayor of the City of Charleston, by a majority of 125 over Mr. Richardson.

Both gentlemen were unexceptionable as regards character and ability, and both personally popular. It was not strictly a party contest, although the question of Know Nothingism seemed to enter somewhat into it, but in a peculiar way. The friends of each party tried to fix the charge upon their opponents and ignore or explain it away from themselves. Mr. Richardson had been a member of the order, but we think went for Mr. Buchanan, or at any rate conceded that the vote of the State ought to be cast for that gentleman. It was charged by the friends of Mr. Richardson that Mr. Macbeth had been elected a member of the order, even if he had not actually joined it, and it was replied by Mr. M. and his friends that with this he had nothing to do, and had never authorized the proposal of his name, or sympathized with the principles of that organization. To claim sound Democracy and explain any Know Nothingism seemed to be the great effort on both sides, if we may judge from the tone of communications in the Charleston papers, including *Mercury*, *Standard* and *Courier*. Mr. Macbeth seems to have made the most successful showing, and his election followed.

Now let me *grumble* a little. The cold weather is coming on, and the Railroad Companies ought to begin to prepare for the comfort of their passengers; and if the Wilmington and Weldon Company, President, Superintendent, Directors, Stockholders and all, had to stand out in the open air at Halifax till one o'clock at night—as I have done twice lately—to wait for the cars, they would be likely to use a few impetuous expressions, and no doubt have a nice, comfortable office and sitting room put up at once for the occupancy of both gentlemen and ladies waiting for the cars. The ticket office is a quarter of a mile from the depot, and I have known many persons to go to Garysburg or come to Weldon to take the cars rather than sit out in the air at Halifax.

The energetic Superintendent, Col. Fremont, ought to look into this matter at once, as it is wrong to keep the passengers out in the cold, and equally so to keep Scoggins up all night, especially "if he" has no oysters on hand.

We have copied the above from the *Weldon N. C.*, correspondence of the *Petersburg Express* of the 7th, and have been informed by the "energetic Superintendent" that there is a slight mistake about the necessity of standing out in the open air at Halifax; that there is a passenger room in the depot warehouse at Halifax, expressly for passengers, with a fire-place and a boy to keep up the fire; and further, the ticket office is kept there at night until the last night train passes. "Es-trangero" must have been asleep on the platform, or he would have found the room. Passenger rooms are now provided at Halifax, Enfield, Rocky Mount and Wilson, we believe, and other places to be accommodated as fast as possible, consistent with the means and business of the Company.

MARYLAND.—The Democrats have elected three out of the six congressmen from Maryland. This is a Democratic gain of one and is no less surprising than gratifying under all the circumstances.

## The Elections.

NEW YORK.—The returns show a plurality for the Democratic over the "Republican" ticket in the City of New York of 22,540. The "American" vote is very small. The clear Democratic majority over the other parties combined, is very considerable. The aggregate vote is much smaller than it was last year.

Last year the "Republicans" carried the State of New York by eighty thousand majority, and it may readily be conceived that, with this fact before them, it required considerable nerve on the part of the Democrats to offer battle and hope for victory. If they have carried the State against such odds, it will be a triumph indeed. They have certainly cut down this enormous majority so far as to place the result in doubt, and to give sanguine Democrats reason to believe that the State has gone Democratic by ten to fifteen thousand.—We trust that it is so, but there is reason to believe it probable that it has gone for the Republicans by a nominal plurality. In either event the Democrats have made tremendous gains. Some time will still be required to finally decide the matter so far as the State ticket is concerned.

Even more interest is attached to the composition of the next Legislature, as upon it will depend whether the new York "Metropolitan police law," and other Republican usurpations will be sustained or abrogated. This will require still longer to canvass.—So far as ascertained, no Republicans have been elected from the City or vicinity. The Charter election in the City comes off on the first of December.

MARYLAND.—We take it for granted that the Know Nothings have swept the State. As usual, Mayor Swann, of Baltimore, kept his promise to the car, but broke it to the heart. There were fewer killed on Wednesday than has been the recent custom there, but there were quite as many disfranchised. The telegraphic reports to the associated press, say that the day passed off quite peaceably, considering they only killed one Irishman in the 17th ward—drove the Naturalized voters from the polls in the 17th and had reports of disturbances in some of the remote wards. In the evening they only had some customary disturbances and bloodshed, and at nine o'clock the Know Nothings paraded the streets with banners and transparencies—firing guns and pistols, claiming a triumph in the election of their whole ticket in the city.

The Washington Union gives the following despatch, from an unprejudiced and perfectly reliable source.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 4.—S. P. M.—There were disturbances at many of the wards—more or less at all. To send details would be intelligent only at great length. It is probable that two or three lives are lost. The foreign vote seems to have been generally excluded. The know-nothing majority doubtless will be enormous.

Upon the whole, it would appear that the doings of Wednesday last were pretty much of the same sort as those of the municipal election last month.

We are without Baltimore papers to-day.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Banks is elected Governor by a plurality of over 20,000. State Senate so far, 31 "Republicans," 1 "American," and 4 Democrats. House 146 "Republicans," 32 "Americans," and 34 Democrats.

MASSACHUSETTS is given up to her idols.

LOUISIANA.—New Orleans goes Know Nothing—State, Democratic, we suppose. Little or no interest.

NEW JERSEY.—Democrats have carried both branches of the State Legislature.

WISCONSIN.—Cross, Democrat, probably elected Governor.

NEW YORK ELECTIONS.—The *New York Tribune* concedes the State to the Democrats by 15,000 to 20,000 over the Black Republicans. It endeavors to account for this by saying that the Republicans to the number of 100,000 "abstained from voting," while the Democrats polled their full strength. This all nonsense. The aggregate fell off from the fact that the excitement was less than in the great and decisive struggle for the Presidency, and from the further fact that the financial pressure of the times occupied men's minds to the exclusion of political subjects. But this effected all parties, and there is no reasonable ground for supposing that, had the fullest possible vote of the State been polled, the result would have been noticeably different. The Legislature still remains in doubt. The Tribune concedes the House to the Democrats, but claims a Republican plurality in the Senate.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Republicans largely in the ascendancy. Banks' plurality 23,000. Legislature decidedly Republican or "American-Republican" as the papers of that party put it.

MARYLAND.—Of doings in Baltimore on Wednesday last, the Sun says: "We have seen and heard enough to know that no practical remedy for existing evils, is likely to be employed at present. Where it is to come from, and in what extremity, the future can alone determine—conjecture is utterly at fault."

It would appear that Congressmen and State officers, including members of the Legislature and not including Governor, were to be chosen. The returns are somewhat meagre, but sufficient to show that the Know Nothing ticket for State officers has been successful by a large majority, and that the Democrats have made some gains on the vote for Congressmen, having probably elected Kunkel, Democrat, over Hoffman, the present "American" member, from the fifth district.

LOUISIANA.—Democratic State ticket elected. Four Democrats and one "American" to Congress. The telegraph classes the Democratic Congressmen elect, as two Slidell and two anti-Slidell Democrats. What all this means we hardly know.

WILMINGTON AND WELDON RAILROAD.—We are gratified to hear in these hard times of trouble, the prosperous condition of this road. It was chartered about eighteen or twenty years ago; it cost, for construction and equipment, \$1,500,000; it had to commence with a construction debt which has never been, omitted to be paid at the day. The same steamer that carried to England and the news of the suspension of our banks and the failure of many of our railroads, carried out gold coin to pay the last instalment due on these bonds. A dividend of 1 per cent. has been declared on this stock for the last year. A sinking fund has been created of 4 per cent. on its capital stock, to meet its fixed liabilities when due. This road forming as it does a main link in the chain of railroad from Washington City to New Orleans, is in fine working order; its agents active, obliging and intelligent, and much credit is due to the zeal and supervision of its president, (Hon. Wm. S. Ashe) who is indefatigable in his exertions for its prosperity.

We copy the above from one of our Virginia Exchanges. We think it a deserved tribute to the management of our road. In these days of railroad failure and suspension, the position of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad Company is a proud one, and the fact is a gratifying one, that none of its English bonds have ever entered the market, or could be purchased now or at any time under par. The interest has never once in twenty years time failed to be paid promptly.

The position of our State Bonds is equally flattering. They are sought for as investments—they do to keep—they are far from. Long may North Carolina Corporate and State credit occupy the same high position.

We are also pleased to be able to state that the business of the Wilmington & Manchester Road shows an encouraging increase in all its branches, the aggregate receipts this year reaching to over four hundred and sixty thousand dollars. The position of the road is improving yearly, with a prospect, not distant, of an assured prosperity.

Dining "a la quirt" is a French idea. In Paris at cheap restaurants the tin soup-bowls for the guests are nailed to the table. From the caudron, in which the soup is scolding, the attendant Lacornier draws up the liquid in huge syringes, from which they drive it into the guests' bowls. He is then expected to pay for the whole of his dinner; but if he exhibits any reluctance, the handmaid sucks up the whole of his soup by drawing it into her syringe again. "The damage" is nine sous.

The case of *Amos Kane*, tried this week on a charge of Arson, was concluded last evening, after having occupied the Court since Wednesday morning. The circumstances are fresh in the recollection of our citizens. At 2 o'clock on the night of the 24th, or the morning of the 25th, of last August, a fire broke out in a warehouse in the rear of the Store on Water Street occupied by the defendant. This fire spread and was not arrested until several buildings and a considerable amount of other property had been consumed. Circumstances appeared which led to the arrest of the prisoner, who was held to appear to answer the charge at this term of the Superior Court. The general character of these circumstances, we stated at the time when the primary investigation took place before the committing magistrates. These were substantially the same relied upon by the State, at trial. It was contended, on the part of the prosecution that these circumstances showed that the fire was the result of design, and not of accident; and that they pointed to the prisoner as the person who set fire to the building.—It was contended by the defence that although these circumstances might, on their face, bear a suspicious character, they were not conclusive of the guilt of the prisoner—they were susceptible of explanation in many ways consistent with his innocence. The testimony was all of that kind known as circumstantial. His Honor in his charge explained the rules applicable to this species of evidence. First, all the circumstances relied upon as essential to the allegation of guilt must be fully proved. Second—all these circumstances must be consistent with each other, and third, they must be conclusive and such as to exclude any rational theory or hypothesis according to which they might all have existed, and still the prisoner be innocent of the offence charged against him.

The case was put to the jury between six and seven o'clock last evening. In about three quarters of an hour they returned with a verdict of "not guilty," and the prisoner was discharged.

From various causes, an unusual amount of interest was felt in this case; but no excited feeling, certainly no prejudice, and from the character of the jury, all felt satisfied that the verdict would be impartially rendered in accordance with the law and the evidence.

The case was very ably conducted on both sides, and every fact bearing upon it clearly brought out. Yesterday was taken up by the argument of counsel. Adam Smith, Esq., opened for the defence, followed by M. B. Smith, Esq., for the prosecution, succeeded by Eli W. Hall and Joshua G. Wright, Esqs., for the prisoner. Robt. Strange, Esq., Solicitor for the State, closed the argument. We cannot pretend to give any report, and feel that it would be wrong and invidious to attempt comparison. The arguments of counsel were able and ingenious, and caused us to be absent from our sanctum the greater part of the day.—*Daily Journal*, 7th inst.

SCHOOL FUND.—Gov. Gregg, as President, ex officio, of the Literary Board, announces the Fall Distribution of the net income of the School Fund. We give the amount for certain counties, as follows:

Beaufort	\$1,405 82
Bladen	962 88
Brunswick	714 12
Columbus	636 96
Craven	1,479 48
Cumberland	1,276 06
Duplin	1,353 32
Edgecombe	1,302 12
Halifax	1,560 84
Harnett	850 70
Johnston	1,337 92
Jones	472 20
Lenoir	741 81
Mecklenburg	1,406 88
Wayne	1,026 26
Nash	948 58
New Hanover	1,708 32
Onslow	844 80
Richmond	952 32
Robeson	1,329 60
Sampson	1,477 32
Wayne	1,238 09
Wilson	710 45

We have had a notion for some time past, to write a flowery and eulogistic description of the atmosphere. We have been inclined to laudate and glorify the Indian Summer and its calm and quiet enjoyments, but every time we did commence, the Mosquitoes commenced on us so fiercely, that we longed for a good frost—condemned the Indian Summer, and, but that we are a Christian man, would have waxed profane. There can be no quiet enjoyment in the centre of a predatory gang of Mosquitoes.

Clerk and Master, O. P. Meares, Esq., resigned the office of Clerk and Master in Equity for this county, and Alfred M. Waddell, Esq., was appointed by the court, gave the necessary bonds, and entered upon the duties of the office.

THREE CROPS.—Mr. R. W. Collins, of Burgaw District in this County, has sent us six Apples, four of them being of the second and two of the third crop of the present year. Those of the second crop are very fair—those of the third are perfectly formed and colored, but small.

For the Journal.

At a meeting of the members of the Bar, held at the Court House, on Saturday the 7th inst. Geo. Davis Esq., was on motion, called to the Chair, and Eli W. Hall and Alfred M. Waddell Esqs., appointed Secretaries. The Chairman explained the object of the meeting to be the observance of a time-honored custom, in rendering to the memory of a professional brother—Gen. John Grey Blynn—the usual tribute of respect.

On motion, the Chair appointed a committee consisting of Messrs W. A. Wright, M. London and Robert Strange, to report resolutions, who, through Mr. Wright reported as follows:

The members of the Bar, attending the Superior Court of Law, of the county of New Hanover, now in session, have heard with sorrow and regret of the death of their professional brother, John Grey Blynn, who departed this life suddenly and unexpectedly on the 17th of the past month. He had been with us as our associate at this Bar for but a year or two past, yet in this comparatively short professional intercourse with him, his astute and commanding intellect, coupled with his learning and knowledge, as well as his profession of the Law, but also in many of the natural sciences, and in the practical affairs of life, have satisfied us that he was well entitled to the eminent reputation which he enjoyed throughout our State. He was a devoted admirer of North Carolina, and as a member of her Legislature, whether in the Senate or House of Commons, was a zealous and faithful proponent of her true interests. He has been taken away in the meridian of life, leaving to us but the memory of his talents and learning, which so well fitted him for his brilliant career of usefulness, alike in his profession as a lawyer and as a citizen.

Resolved, That by the death of John Grey Blynn, the Bar of this place has lost one of its most talented and learned members, and our State a citizen of devoted patriotism.

Resolved, That the members of this Bar, as evidence of their respect for the memory of the deceased, will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to the Chairman of this meeting, to be read at the funeral of the deceased, with our sincere condolence for the bereavement which he has sustained.

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting be requested to present this preamble, and the accompanying Resolutions to the Court now in session, and to move his Honor that they be recorded on the minutes of the Court.

Resolved, That the Secretaries be requested to furnish a copy of the proceedings of this meeting to the papers of the Town with a request that they publish them.

The meeting then adjourned.

GEO. DAVIS, Chm'n.

ELI W. HALL, A. M. WADDELL, Secretaries.

Bank Reclamation, &c.

NEW ORLEANS, NOV. 4.—The Citizens' Bank resumed specie payments to-day. Considerable specie is coming in. Yesterday's engagements were met. Business prospects are brightening.

The steamer *Black Warrior*, from Havana, has arrived.

From Washington City.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—The afternoon papers state that the markets loaned by Gov. Wm. O. Lloyd have been placed in the National Army here for sale.

Gov. Walker has obtained leave of absence from Kansas, and is expected here by Saturday.

HALIFAX, Nov. 4.—The R. M. steamship *Canada*, Capt. W. J. C. Long, arrived here this morning after a Liverpool date of Saturday, the 25th ult. She brings one million dollars in specie.

The latest news from the United States received in Liverpool was brought by the *Antelope*, from Portland, and dated Nov. 3.

There was nothing later from India.

It was reported that the French government intends removing the restrictions upon the export of corn and flour.

The Turkish ministry had overthrown Redschid Pacha, the Grand Vizier.

Monetary affairs in London were more satisfactory, and the pressure had considerably abated. Many continental banks had advanced their rates one per cent. [SECOND DISPATCH.]

ENGLAND.—Financial matters are the most prominent topics. In the London market on Wednesday the funds were undisturbed in firmness at a slight advance on Tuesday's rates. Money was in good supply at 5½ per cent. discount. The advance in bank rates greatly checked the flow of gold toward New York, large intended shipments being countermanded. The small quantity of goods being forwarded by the East India Company gave rise to a further advance on Indian bills to four per cent. The bank of England threw out some bills, supposed to be based on shipments of specie to America.

The funds continued buoyant on Friday, and no gold was withdrawn from the bank.

The rate of discount at Hamburg had declined. The Canada takes out tenders for \$2,000,000 worth of 8 per cent Michigan Central bonds for the extinction of the floating debt.

The rates of money and stock exchange remain at 5 per cent.

The demand for money at the bank on Friday was heavy.

Mr. Ten Broeck's horse Pryor is dead.

Canada. It is stated that the governor of the Bank of France had asked for a decree giving a forced currency to bank notes.

Bullion in the Bank of France had decreased 35,000, 000 francs since the last monthly returns.

Three per cent closed at 66½ cts.

SPAIN.—The new Spanish cabinet had not been organized.

Belgium.—The Bank of Belgium had advanced its rates of interest.

DENMARK.—The rates of the Bank of Denmark had also been advanced.

AUSTRIA.—A financial pressure was feared but it was generally believed that it would be but temporary.

LONDON, Saturday.—Turkey still persists in claiming the Island of Perim, and refuses any indemnity.

It is stated that the British cabinet has arranged for the recall of the governor-general of India.

The London News says that the East India Company have commenced large remittances of silver to India.

There has been a serious conflict at Frankfurt between the garrison and the Austrian and Bavarian regiments. Many were wounded on both sides.

The News by the Canada.

The European mails by the steamship *Canada* reached this city this morning. Our limits will only permit us to make room for the following summary of her news, for which we are indebted to the *Liverpool Journal* of October 24:

Prussia begins to fix itself on the public mind adverse to the competency of Lord Canning as governor general of India. Private letters from Calcutta speak of him in terms anything but respectful; and it must be admitted that nothing appears in the intelligence from the East to warrant a hope that Lord Canning is practically equal to the occasion. He has done nothing to make his name known in India, but if reports be true, he has done many things which impair his mind of littleness and commonplace. As, however, every mail is expected to bring home news of the utter discomfiture of the rebels, ministers would be hardly justified in entertaining the question of a change of governorship.—The insurgents can hardly hold out very long; and, as we observed a week or two since, the fall of Delhi will be the prelude to their dispersion as robbers and vagrants over the whole country. They may be troublesome, but they must cease to be formidable.

The illness of the King of Prussia has opened up the important question as to the effect his death would have on the policy of Europe. It is not, however, clear whether his recovery will be of a nature to enable him to renew his government or to disqualify him from an active part in the administration of affairs. If perfectly recovered, matters will go on as before; if imperfectly recovered, a regency may be the consequence; and as might easily be gathered, his brother, the prince royal, will become queen of Prussia, without her mother-in-law having worn the crown. The prince of Prussia is almost an old man; but he has managed through life to render it difficult for any party in the State to claim him as an ally; while one considers him an aristocrat, another pronounces him a liberal; but as all is uncertain, the nature of his principles, and the character of his government, takes upon him the business of government—if he is ever permitted to do so. A Prussian document has just appeared respecting the principles on the Danube; the representatives of Prussia, at the different courts, received it last May, but it was only permitted to reach the light within the last week. It was, of course, disapproved in its nature, and would modify any previous opinion which was favorable or otherwise, to the Moldo-Wallachian union. The union may now be regarded as an established fact. The election, in both principalities, gave to the Parliament a majority in its favor; and, as the divan is now sitting, it is pretty clear that Russia and France have predominated over England, Turkey, and Austria. The Slav nations, who inhabit the Balkan Peninsula, have been full in another place, and Austria without England can afford no physical aid. It is not quite clear that the union will be of any service whatever to Russia; for, as to France, it is impossible to conjecture what interest she could have beyond that of doing a favor to the Czar, unless there be any truth in the story (which seems probable) respecting the election of Prince Murat as King of the principalities. Union gives strength; and the two principalities being united form a population greater than that of Belgium; and, like Belgium, may exist independently in the envy and jealousy of surrounding nations.

Spain has still just that kind of existence which attracts a passing notice when Madrid is agitated with civil war. It is quite evident that in this country the strength or principles of parties in Spain are not at all properly appreciated. We know very little of them; and it is because our information is so imperfect that we ascribe to court intrigues the dismissal of one Premier and the appointment of another. The court, we may be assured, has no voice in the matter; the circumstances resting on public opinion—for there are no other changes have now become rather frequent, and we may rest assured that there is an agitation below which must soon manifest itself in the light of day throughout the country.

In France a very curious trial has taken place. At the last election, in one of the provinces, a candidate said to have been a very equivocal character, appeared. He was not returned; and, although pronounced insignificant, the law officers of the crown thought fit to prosecute him in a criminal court. He was defended by an adherent of the Bonapartes, but who, inheriting the logic of the advocate, made the case of his client a point of professional honor. The defence was an able one; for on the cross examination of witnesses a most extraordinary disclosure took place. It appears that the ballot box at that election, and no doubt, at all other elections, was a mere sham. It was something more. It was an instrument by which the voice of the people was set at naught, and the influence of the court made triumphant. A more profligate proceeding never took place anywhere in the world pretending to constitutional rights; and what all reasonable men suspected is now made manifest, that the voice of France has never been consulted in either the election of Louis Napoleon or the election of members of the National Assembly.

The home incidents of the week are few and unimportant. Members of Parliament have spoken at meetings and agricultural dinners; but as the only topic available to them was India, they could, of course, only repeat what has been said as well, or better, before.

PAYABLE IN HELD.—A ten dollar bill on one of the recent suspensions of Tennessee banks, "payable in held," was offered to several brokers, but refused at any price, although other bills on the same bank were being taken at a small discount. The proper bill in hand probably being accidentally omitted at the time of issue, and the bank supplied as indicated above by some wag. The refusal of the brokers to take the bill was because of the impossibility of collecting it. At last the holder, in despair, approached a number of money shavers, who had their heads together over some ancient shavings, and exclaimed with well-defined earnestness, "Gentlemen this bill is payable in held, truly; but if you can't collect it—do as I do—I know you can!"

AMERICAN PATRIOT.—Of William Page, of New York, now in Rome, the *Evening Post* gives the following particulars, culled from an announcement of his marriage, which took place on the 8th ult., with Mrs. Sophia Oakes Hiltcock, daughter of Henry Stevens, of Vermont.

Mr. Page, with the exception of his last summer's visit in this city, has resided in Italy since the year 1850. His stay abroad has not been without an important influence on his modes of thought and his style as an artist. A careful study of six months in Venice of the works of Titian has enabled him to establish his previous discovery of the secret of that great master's success in flesh color. This discovery has been recognized by the Venetians themselves, who pronounce Page the only worthy copyist of the greatest colorists who ever lived. It may be remembered that Page's copy of the "Flower Girl," painted for an American gentleman, was prohibited from leaving Venice by the Custom House officers, who mistook it for an original.

Mr. Page's paintings, which, through of an unequal merit, are as a whole, among the most valuable treasures of art, are sufficiently familiar to dispense with any enumeration. The most complete collection of them is in the possession of Mr. Francis G. Shaw, of Staten Island. Page has much the same metaphysical turn which characterized Alton, whose execution so frequently fell below the high conceptions which thronged his poetic mind. He is a profound Shakespearean scholar, and familiar with every line of the poet. Brady, the photographer, who as a little boy in Page's studio, first had his attention directed to the study of art, well remembers the young painter's putting him on a table, locking the door, and then reading Shakespeare so that he might have a listener who would make no foolish comments. It is worthy of remark, that the most successful of the truly "imperial" photographs which fill Brady's gallery, is that of his old friend and master.

Mr. Page intends, in the coming spring, in company with his wife, to take the tour of Egypt, and then to revisit his native land, where he will deliver a course of six or eight lectures on art and the early artists, a subject which he has long and profoundly studied. He has also, we are told, prepared a work on "Coloring," which will receive a wide welcome.

How they Manage Fires in Germany.

A letter from the Baths of Ems, Germany, to the N. Y. *Journal of Commerce*, says:

"It afforded a few of us no small amusement a day or two since, to witness the activity of the Germans when they get 'waked up.' The occasion was a fire that took place in a small village or hamlet some four or five miles from here, and we were all very much interested where the fire was raging. The great man of the place must first be assured that the building was really in danger; i. e. it must be well on fire, before he would make out a written request for assistance. This important document being prepared, a messenger was duly despatched to the authority of Ems, who after having thoroughly considered the matter, would deliver a lengthy paper which is sent to the august commander of the fire engine. This personage mounts his mule, and after much ado, collects some twenty laborers to man his machine. After all have arrived, several are sent either to the engine or to the house, where they are to be ready to procure beams to drag the engine, and then the fire is extinguished, and the fire engine is sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire, and how far or how near it is to the village, and then they are sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire, and how far or how near it is to the village, and then they are sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire, and how far or how near it is to the village, and then they are sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire, and how far or how near it is to the village, and then they are sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire, and how far or how near it is to the village, and then they are sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire, and how far or how near it is to the village, and then they are sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire, and how far or how near it is to the village, and then they are sent back to the village in the Duchy where it had time to burn up. Not so, however, think our doughty German friends; with many a crack and grunt, (they never halloo here) they are at last off at the rate of a couple of miles to the hour. Of course they have nothing to do when they arrive at the scene of the late fire. To make amends, however, they spend some hours in speculating on the origin of the fire,